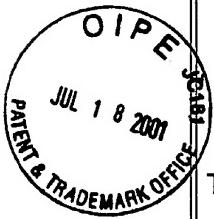


2878
PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 07553.0021



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Toru KAWAGUCHI

Serial No.: 09/832,837

Filed: April 12, 2001

For: SURFACE POSITION DETECTION
DEVICE AND EXPOSURE
APPARATUS AND EXPOSURE
METHOD ACHIEVED BY
UTILIZING DETECTION DEVICE

) Group Art Unit: 2878

) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

#6/Pre.
AG
MR
1/1/01

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the originally filed specification with the attached substitute specification.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-90 and add claims 91-114 as follows:

91. (New) A surface position detection device for detecting a surface position of a detection target surface, comprising:

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